

# **Information Sheet for Afghan Parolees Departing Military Installations**

Welcome to the United States. Your health, safety, and well-being are our top priority as you travel to your new homes and settle into your communities.

#### **Conditions of Parole**

You have been paroled into the country for urgent humanitarian reasons for a period of up to two years. To maintain parole and remain in the United States, you must follow certain conditions:

- (1) You must receive certain vaccines and a tuberculosis test (if you have not already received them on base), and
- (2) You must notify U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) of your new address and any time you have a change of address within ten days of moving.

# **Change of Address Notifications**

- You can notify USCIS of your address in one of two ways:
  - (1) Through your existing <u>USCIS online account</u> (if you have one) at https://www.uscis.gov/file-online/how-to-create-a-uscis-online-account; or
  - (2) By filing the Form AR-11, Alien's Change of Address Card, online using the following webpage: <a href="https://egov.uscis.gov/coa/displayCOAForm.do">https://egov.uscis.gov/coa/displayCOAForm.do</a>
  - Note: If you have any issues or questions about an address change request, email: nbcafghancoa@uscis.dhs.gov.

#### **How do I contact USCIS?**

You can call the USCIS Contact Center for assistance at 800-375-5283 (TTY 800-767-1833), Monday to Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Eastern. When you call, please identify yourself as a citizen/national of Afghanistan so that the appropriate representative can help you.

# **Finding Legal Services**

For information on locating legal services, please visit <a href="https://www.uscis.gov/avoid-scams/find-legal-services">https://www.uscis.gov/avoid-scams/find-legal-services</a>.

# Types of Long-Term Legal Status You May Be Eligible For

# **Asylum**

Individuals in the United States may apply for asylum regardless of their country of nationality or current immigration status. Those who have been persecuted or have a fear of future persecution because of race, nationality, religion, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion may be eligible for asylum. For more information on asylum, visit <a href="www.uscis.gov/asylum">www.uscis.gov/asylum</a>. If you wish to apply for asylum you must generally do so within one year of your last arrival into the United States. If you have already filed an asylum claim, you can check your case status online using the receipt number we mailed you after you applied at: <a href="www.uscis.gov/casestatus">www.uscis.gov/casestatus</a>.

# Form & Fee Information:

• To apply for asylum, you have to file a Form I-589, Application for Asylum and for Withholding of Removal. This form is available on the USCIS website and there is no fee to file it.

### **Family-Based Immigration Petitions**

If you have immediate family (spouse, parents, children, siblings) who are U.S. citizens, permanent residents or principal refugees/asylees, they may be eligible to petition for permanent residency on your behalf. For more information, see <a href="https://www.uscis.gov/green-card/green-card-eligibility-categories">www.uscis.gov/green-card/green-card-eligibility-categories</a>.

To check on pending petitions for family-based immigration (Form I-130 and Form I-730), petitioners, beneficiaries, or attorneys of record with a Form G-28 on file may call the USCIS Contact Center at 800-375-5283 (TTY 800-767-1833), Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Eastern. USCIS is expediting pending family-based petitions for beneficiaries in Afghanistan.

### *Form & Fee Information:*

- Form I-130, Petition for Alien Relative, requires a filing fee and is not eligible for a fee waiver request.
- Form I-730, Refugee/Asylee Relative Petition, does not require a filing fee.
- Form I-485, Application to Register Permanent Residence or Adjust Status, if filed based on a Form I-130, requires a filing fee and is not eligible for a fee waiver request.

# **Working in the United States**

For parolees, USCIS must approve your Form I-765, Application for Employment Authorization before you can work legally in the United States. You may have submitted your Form I-765 at a government facility after being paroled into the United States. If so, you do not need to do anything else. Your employment authorization card will be mailed to you at your address on record.

### Form Information

If you have not yet submitted your Form I-765, please complete the following steps:

- Complete Form I-765. Type or write your eligibility category in Part 2, Item Number 27, on Form I-765. The category number for parolees is "(c)(11)."
- File Form I-765 with a copy of your Form I-94, passport, or other travel document showing you were paroled into the United States for urgent humanitarian reasons or reasons of significant public benefit pursuant to INA 212(d)(5).
- Biometric Services Appointment. USCIS may require that you appear for an interview or provide biometrics (fingerprints, photograph, and/or signature) at any time to verify your identity, obtain additional information, and conduct background and security checks, including a check of criminal history records maintained by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), before deciding on your I-765 application. After we receive your application and check that it is complete, we will inform you in writing if you need to attend a biometric services appointment. If you do, the notice will provide you the location of your local or designated USCIS application support center and the date and time of your appointment. If you do not attend your biometric services appointment, USCIS may deny your application.

Once your Form I-765 is approved, your Employment Authorization Document (EAD) will be mailed to you at your address on record.

# Fee Information

Afghan nationals who were paroled into the United States due to the humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan do not have to pay the filing fee for the Form I-765.

Please Note: Federal law requires that every employer who recruits, refers for a fee, or hires an individual for employment in the United States completes the Form I-9, Employment Eligibility Verification. Additional information about the Form I-9 and your rights as an employee can be found at <a href="https://www.uscis.gov/i-9-central">www.uscis.gov/i-9-central</a>.

#### **Social Security Account Number Card**

A Social Security account number card is important because you need it to get a job, collect Social Security benefits, and receive other government services. If you gave USCIS permission to share your Form I-765 information with the Social Security Administration (SSA), they will create and mail a Social Security account number card to the address on record. If you did not provide USCIS permission to share information with SSA, you can apply for a Social Security Account Number Card by following the instructions at www.ssa.gov/ssnumber/

# **Information on Marriages**

In the United States, there are laws that may help you avoid or escape an abusive or forced marriage. A forced marriage is one that takes place without the consent of one or both people and may occur when someone uses physical or emotional abuse, threats, or deception to force you to marry. If you have suffered forced marriage, domestic violence or other abuse, please contact the telephone numbers or "hotlines" below to receive free help in your language.

- National Domestic Violence Hotline: 800-799-7233, 800-787-3224 (TTY), www.ndvh.org.
- National Sexual Assault Hotline of the Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network (RAINN): 800-656-4673, www.rainn.org.
- National Center for Missing and Exploited Children: 800-843-5678, www.missingkids.com.
- The National Center for Victims of Crime: 800-394-2255, 800-211-7996 (TTY), www.ncvc.org.
- National Human Trafficking Hotline: 888-373-7888. Text: 233733
- **Tahirih Justice Center Forced Marriage Initiative**: 571-356-9491 (9-5:30 Eastern, Monday-Friday) www.preventforcedmarriage.org.

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